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December 19, 2003

December 19, 2003 **Date of Signature**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Carlo Rubbia

Serial No.:

09/782,558

Filed:

JAN 0 2 2004

February 13, 2001

Art Unit:

3641

Confirmation No.:

9660

Examiner:

Ricardo J. Palabrica

Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR HEATING GAS

FROM A THIN LAYER OF NUCLEAR FUEL, AND SPACE ENGINE USING SUCH METHOD

CUSTOMER NO. 28465

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT D

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 1, 2003, the claims of the application are amended as follows. Also, please consider the following remarks.